

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00293 220736Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 TRSE-00 EUR-12 AID-05 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W

-----220744Z 035155 /22

R 220645Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL KADUNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3548

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL IBADAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 0293

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINR, NI

SUBJECT: REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT OF FEDERAL COMMISSIONERS (AND PERHAPS
OTHERS)

REF: LAGOS 3044 KADUNA 0282

1. DURING WEEKEND HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TOUCH BASE ON SUBJECT
AND RELATED MATTERS WITH BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER
(BDHC), AND A WELL-CONNECTED AND USUALLY RELIABLE NORTHERN NIGERIAN
SOURCE.

2. BDHC HAD DRAWN ROUGHLY THE SAME CONSLUSIONS ABOUT THE
REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT OF THE SEVEN COMMISSIONERS AS THOSE
SET FORTH IN REFTELS. HE TOLD ME HE HAS ALSO PICKED UP
RUMOR FROM NORTHERN SOURCES THAT "SOMETHING" WILL HAPPEN
AT END MARCH; MARCH 29 IS DATE THAT HAS BEEN MENTIONED TO
HIM. ALTHOUGH HIS SOURCES DID NOT PROVIDE ANY DETAIL ON
WHAT "SOMETHING" ENTAILS, ONE COMMENTED THAT HE WAS
GOING TO MAKE SURE HE WAS NOWHERE NEAR ANY MILITARY
INSTALLATION ON NIGHT OF 29TH.

3. NORTHERN SOURCE TOLD ME THAT RETIREMENT OF HARUNA,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KADUNA 00293 220736Z

OBADA, OLUTOYE AND FINGESI NOT ALL SURPRISING. FINGESI IN
SOUP OVER FESTAC; HARUNA IN BAD ODOR BECAUSE OF POOR
PERFORMANCE AT INFORMATION MINISTRY AND FOR DRINKING;
OBADA IS "KNOWN" TO BE ENGAGED IN CORRUPT DEALS. ACCORDING
TO SOURCE, ANOTHER ELEMENT IN REMOVAL OP MILITARY COMMISSIONERS
WAS FACT THAT THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT BODY OF INFLUENTIAL MILITARY
OFFICERS WHO FELT THAT AT TIME OF GOWON'S OUSTER, ALL

REPEAT ALL SENIOR OFFICERS (COLONEL AND ABOVE) SHOULD HAVE BEEN RETIRED.

4. SOURCE ASKED IF I HAD NOTED THAT ONE OF THE NEW FEDERAL COMMISSIONERS (PRESUMABLY KACHALLO BARKO - MINES AND POWER) WAS A BORNO MAN WHEREAS THERE HAD BEEN NO REPRESENTATION PREVIOUSLY AT FEDERAL COMMISSIONER LEVEL FROM THAT STATE. HE THEN ALLUDED TO DURBAR PERFORMANCE OF SHEHU OF BORNO WHO, IN STOPPING TO REVIEW HIS CONTINGENT OF HORSEMAN LESS THAN THIRTY YARDS FROM HEAD OF STATE'S SEAT, CREATED SITUATION IN WHICH BORNO HORSEMAN PRESENTED THEIR BACKS TO HEAD OF STATE AFTER MAKING THEIR OBEISANCES TO SHEHU. SOURCE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT OBASANJO HAD GOTTEN MESSAGE FROM THAT INCIDENT THAT BORNO WAS NOT OVERLY PLEASED WITH FMG.

5. WHEN I ASKED SOURCE IF HE HAD HEARD ABOUT "SOMETHING" LIKELY TO HAPPEN AT THE END OF MARCH, HE CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE BUT SAID HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE TOOK PLACE PARTIAL OR WHOLESAL REMOVAL OF MILITARY GOVERNORS. HE SAID FMG WAS QUITE CONCERNED AT RECENT WAVE OF STUDENT UNREST AND MIGHT WELL BE RUNNING SCARED OF STUDENTS. HE HAD EXPECTED AT LEAST SOME MILITARY GOVERNORS TO HAVE BEEN CHANGED EARLIER BUT UNDERSTOOD THAT OBASANJO, YAR'ADUA AND DANJUMA EACH HAD A DIFFERENT ROSTER OF REPLACEMENT CANDIDATES. DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE THREE ABOUT REPLACEMENTS HAD DELAYED CHANGES OF GOVERNORS.

6. COMMENT: UNIVERSITY STUDENT GROUP CALLS FOR REPLACEMENT OF MILITARY GOVERNORS FOR SIN OF FALLING INTO GOWONISM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KADUNA 00293 220736Z

(FOR WHICH I READ CORRUPTION AND HIGH-HANDEDNESS) ECHO COMMENTS INCREASINGLY BEING HEARD HERE FROM PRIVATE SECTOR SINCE ABOUT BEGINNING OF YEAR. CONSENSUS OF A NUMBER OF BANKERS HERE (EXPATRIATES) IS THAT CORRUPTION GENERALLY IS AT LEAST AS RAMPANT AS IN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE GOWON REGIME. WHILE BANKERS ARE OBVIOUSLY UNWILLING TO PROVIDE SPECIFICS OR NAMES, THEY SHOULD BE IN GOOD POSITION TO KNOW WHEREOF THEY SPEAK.
BURKE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KADUNA00293
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770097-0618
Format: TEL
From: KADUNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770336/aaaabeux.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f3f134b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LAGOS 3044
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3037981
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT OF FEDERAL COMMISSIONERS (AND PERHAPS OTHERS)
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, NI, (HARUNA, IBM), (OBADA, OE), (OLUTOYE, O), (FINGESI, OC HEGOMIE P)
To: STATE LAGOS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f3f134b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009